

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.(Currently Amended) An article of footwear, comprising:

an upper for holding a foot of a wearer; and

a sole including an outsole and a midsole portion attached to the outsole; said midsole portion including a resilient material and a midsole plate being coupled to the resilient material, and the midsole plate having a two laterally disposed tines corresponding to a forefoot of a wearer when superimposed thereon, said tines defining a forked geometry; wherein the outsole and the midsole portion includes an elongated pathway surrounded by generally perpendicular sidewalls defined by the outsole and the midsole portion, the elongated pathway for air communication within an interior of the upper, the pathway having a distal end defining an air intake for receiving air at the outsole, the pathway having an air outlet opposing the air intake; and wherein the midsole plate includes a plurality of apertures configured for the air communication; the plurality of apertures of the midsole plate being connected to the elongated pathway via the air outlet.

2. (Original) The article of footwear of claim 1, in which said midsole plate includes a forefoot flexing portion being devoid of material, said forefoot flexing portion being disposed between said tines.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The article of footwear of claim 3 1, in which the midsole plate further comprises a midfoot portion corresponding to a foot of a wearer, the apertures and the pathway being disposed in the midfoot portion.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The article of footwear of claim 1, in which the midsole plate has a bottom surface including the plurality apertures extending therethrough, the bottom surface having a plurality of hemispherical projections surrounding the plurality of apertures ~~includes indicium on a bottom surface and the outsole and the midsole portion includes a pathway for exposing said indicium.~~

7. (Original) The article of footwear of claim 1, in the which the midsole plate further comprises a phalanx portion, a metatarsal portion and a midfoot portion corresponding to a foot of a wearer, the phalanx portion, the metatarsal portion, and the midfoot portion of said midsole plate each having a different thickness with respect to each other.

8. (Original) The article of footwear of claim 7, in which the thickness of the midfoot portion of the midsole plate is greater than the respective thickness of the metatarsal portion and the phalanx portion.

9. (Original) The article of footwear of claim 7, in which the thickness of the metatarsal portion of the midsole plate is greater than the thickness of the phalanx portion.

10. -17 (cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) An article of footwear, comprising:

an upper for holding a foot of a wearer;

a sole attached the upper; the sole including an outsole and a midsole; and

a midsole plate attached to an upper surface of the midsole; the midsole plate ~~being~~ having a plurality of perforations so that air is communicated from the outsole through midsole and the midsole plate into the upper; wherein an air communication pathway extends through the outsole and the midsole to encompass the plurality of perforations within a superimposed area on the midsole plate formed by the void portion.

19. (Original) The article of footwear of claim 18, in which the midsole plate includes two distinct forwardly disposed fork members configured to lie underneath a phalanx portion of a foot of a wearer.

20. (Original) The article of footwear for claim 19, in which the midsole plate comprises a plastic material.

21. (New) The article of footwear of claim 19, wherein the midsole plate further comprises a predetermined metatarsal portion and a midfoot portion corresponding to a foot of a wearer, the metatarsal portion, and midfoot portion each having a different stiffness with respect to each other.

22. (New) The article of footwear of claim 19, wherein the stiffness of the midfoot portion of the midsole plate is greater than the respective stiffness of the metatarsal portion.